



"Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man."

PREPARATION OF RENNET.

A friend wishes us to give the best method of preparing rennet so as to keep well. We believe there is no mystery in the mode of preparing them. After being taken out, they are made clean, and put into a pickle made of salt and water, and after being saturated with the salt, taken out, a stick bent, put into them to stretch them, and hung up with the stick, or on the stick, to dry. Least this simple statement, however, should not be thought explicit enough for our friendly enquirer, we will copy one or two directions from prime authority, for the special education of him and others of like desires.

The Bath (England) agricultural papers contain the following directions from a Mr. Hazard. Mr. H. seems to look upon the business much like a perfumer, and we have no doubt his mode is very nice.

"When the raw skin," says he, "is fitted for the purpose, three parts of soft water, clean and sweet, should be mixed with the salt wherein should be put sweet briar, rose leaves and flowers, cinnamon, mace, cloves, and almost every sort of spice, and these are put into two quarts of water. They must be gently, till the liquor is reduced to three parts, and care should be taken that the liquor be not smoked. It should be strained clean from the spices, &c., and when found to be not warmer than milk from the cow, it may be poured upon the maw, (rennet skin;) a lemon may be sliced into it, where it might remain a day or two; when, if well cooked, it will keep good for twelve months. It will smell like a perfume, and a small quantity of it will turn the milk, and give the cheese a pleasant flavor."

In this recipe it is evident he designs using only the liquor in bringing the curd, for he afterwards says: "If the maw be salted and dried for a week or two near the fire, it will do for the purpose again, almost as well as before."

Another direction in the same paper is as follows: After the maw has been well cleaned and dried upon sticks or splints, take two quarts of salt, boiled into brine that will bear an egg. Let it be blood warm, and put in the maw, either cut or whole; let it steep for twenty-four hours, and it will be fit for use. About a teaspoonful will turn the milk of ten cows. It should be kept in glass bottles, well corked.

So much for the English recipes. Now for a Yankee one. In an old number of the Massachusetts Agricultural Repository, we find the following:

The rennet is prepared by taking some whey and salting it till it will bear an egg. Let it stand over night, and in the morning it is to be skimmed and racked off clear; to this add an equal quantity of water brine strong as the whey, and into this mixture some sweet briar, thyme, or some other sweet herbs, about a little black pepper and saltpeper. The herbs are kept in the liquor three or four days, after which it is decanted clear from them.

Into six quarts of this liquor four large calves' bags, or stomachs, are put. No part of the preparation is heated, and frequently the calves' stomachs are only steeped in cold salt and water.

While upon this subject, it occurs to us to ask the question, is arsenic ever used by cheese makers to turn the milk from which they manufacture their cheese?

Friend Hacker, of the Pleasant Boat, while noticing an account of the poisoning of certain persons in Augusta by eating New York cheese says he has been informed that in some dairies a solution of arsenic is sometimes used instead of rennet, for bringing the curd, and if an over dose is put in poisonous cheese is produced. We never heard of such things being done, and all we can say about it is, whoever practices in this way ought to eat all the cheese, and drink all the whey so produced.

WILL CLAY PAINT PREVENT MICE FROM GNAWING TREES?

This idea suggested itself not long ago. It may be a good one—it may not. It may be tried next fall just before winter sets in. It is easily made by mixing clay with water and easily applied by a brush.

We think it would prevent the borer from perforating trees if applied thick for a foot or two from the ground upwards.

This "Clay paint" was many years ago recommended in the English Horticultural periodicals, as a good application for destroying insects, and mildew, &c., on fruit trees.

A correspondent of the Caledonian Horticultural Society, once recommended it in the refectory of arts. He directed to take a quantity of the most tenacious clay [we should think the sticky blue clay would be the best, Ed.] diffuse it among a quantity of soft water to bring it to the consistency of cream, and apply it with a brush. Previous to this he would pass it through a sieve or hair strainer, so that it may be made perfectly smooth and unctuous, and free from any gritty particles. He painted it over the whole tree, the young shoots not excepted. When it becomes dry it forms a hard crust, which enveloping any insects closely, completely destroys them without doing the smallest injury to the bark or buds. He also stated that he applied it to the buds of his grape vines, and thought he derived an advantage by it, from its retaining the moisture in the buds and branches a long time.

We have never made trial of this kind of paint, and merely suggest it to those of our readers who may feel disposed to give it a trial.

PURITY OF STOCK.

Some complaint has been made from time to time, by the few farmers among us who pay regard to the purity of the breed of their stock, that the Trustees of our agricultural societies, who offer premiums, and the committees who award them, do not pay due attention to the purity of the stock brought forward by competitors at the cattle shows.

Now, if blood, or "breed," is of any consequence, at all, it is of consequence that it should be pure,—and if the Trustees of any society offer premiums for full blooded stock of any breed,—say of Durham, Hereford, Ayrshire, &c., &c.,—it of course means that the competitors, in order to win the premium, should be, in fact, indisputably full blood, or thorough bred, as it is called. In order to establish this beyond dispute, an authentic and undoubted pedigree should be demanded. One that cannot be disputed. We believe this is seldom demanded by our society in Kennebec, and hence the society, and through them the public, have more than once been imposed upon, by having animals brought forward and recommended as full blood, when they were not.

We have some thorough bred Durhams, and through bred Ayrshires and Devons in the State. These have been obtained by their proprietors at great cost, and are kept pure from alloy at great pains. It is not right, therefore, that these should be crowded out of the ring by the mere pretensions of others, who puff up their animals as full blood, when, in fact, they are only grade animals. They may be good animals, and even possess better points sometimes than the full bloods with whom they compete. A Durham that is fifteen-sixteenths Durham may possess better points, and more symmetry of form and figure, than a genuine full blood. But what then? If the premium is for full blood he has no right to it. If it is important to have the breed at all, it is important to keep full bloods, for from such, and from such, can the full bloods be propagated, and from such do the grades, or part bloods originally come.—This matter should receive more attention from our agricultural societies.

For the Maine Farmer.

QUESTIONS ABOUT PRUNING.

Mr. Editor:—I intend soon to commence pruning my orchard, which has been so much neglected that I shall be obliged to saw off some large limbs. I wish you or some of your correspondents would inform me how close I should saw off the limbs. I perceive that my neighbors are not agreed upon this point. Some of them take the limbs off quite close to the trunk or branch from which the limb is taken; others saw the limbs off not nearer than three-fourths of an inch or perhaps an inch; and others, from six to fifteen inches. Those who prune close acknowledge that the wound is made larger, but argue that the wound is so near the flow of the sap that it will heal quicker and sounder; while others, not in favor of close pruning, argue that the wound is smaller when the limb is not cut off close, and that part of the tree from which the limb is taken is growing so that it will soon heal over, or, if it does not heal sound, it is so far from the heart of the tree that it will not do much injury. Please answer the above and oblige at least one.

Knox, May 24th, 1852.

READER.

NOTE. It is best to prune close to the stock, so that the wound can close up soon, and present a surface that will not admit water. Nine-tenths of the decayed and hollow apple trees are brought to this condition by cutting off large limbs and not protecting or covering them with something that shall keep out the water. Shell-lac varnish, tar and brick dust, and such like preparations, are good for this purpose, and should be kept on until the bark has closed over and sealed it up.

Mr. Alonzo Wood, of Winthrop, we are informed, has adopted the following method of covering large wounds in trees. He takes the end of the limb cut off, sets it on to sheet lead, (such as you find in a tea-chest will be good,) and marking around its circumference. The lead is then cut out by the mark, applied to the wound, and tacked on. In a year or two the bark grows over it and holds it down until it is entirely covered. The cuts in pruning should not only be close to the body, but should be smooth. Go into almost any old orchard, and examine the large wounds, and you will probably find many which are partly grown over with bark, and have had it not been for some knob or projection of the wound, over which it will take the annual deposits of new wood and bark some years longer to rise. This gives a lesson worth remembering and a guide for practice.

Ed.

For the Farmer.

THE WHEAT CROP IN ALBION.

Mr. Editor:—The Assessors of the town of Albion have furnished the following information in relation to the wheat crop in said town in 1851. Presuming it will not be uninteresting to your readers to see the result, I take the liberty to ask you to insert in your paper the facts arrived at. There appear to have been raised in said town, last year, 4537 bushels of spring wheat, and 1004 bushels of winter wheat—total 5541 bushels. This wheat was grown upon 184 farms, and all or nearly all on ploughed ground. The largest crop grew upon the farm of Maj. John Wellington, being 105 winter and 10 spring wheat. The second in order, viz., 102 bushels of spring wheat, was raised by Ephraim Besse. Allowing 1604 inhabitants in the town, according to the last census, it would give to each soul, 3 bushels and 144 quarts, nearly.

Will not other towns furnish similar statements, (particularly those in Kennebec County,) so that the Albion farmers may know how nearly they approach to an average with the farmers of their sister towns, so far as the raising of wheat is concerned?

South Albion, June 1, 1852.

THOS. BURNELL.

INDIAN BREAD. Beat two eggs very light, mix alternately with one pint of sour milk, or buttermilk, and one pint of oat meal; melt one tablespoonful of butter and add to the mixture; dissolve one tablespoonful of soda and salt, and mix in a small portion of the milk, and add it to the mixture the last thing; beat very hard and bake it in a quick oven.

For the Maine Farmer.

BARN ITCH.

Mr. Editor:—If you or some of your numerous readers will prescribe, through the columns of the Farmer, a remedy for the barn itch in cattle, you will greatly oblige A. Sussinger.

Hartford, May 29, 1852.

NOTE. What is called the "Barn Itch" is a disease of the skin or cuticle of cattle confined to the barn during the winter and spring. We have never satisfied ourselves in regard to the true cause of it, but it seems to be connected with wet, cold weather, or at any rate, it is aggravated by long exposure to freezing and wet weather. Give the animal a little sulphur occasionally, in meal or other provender; and smear the parts affected with common unguentum.—While lead paint has been used when there is no danger of cattle licking the place. An ointment made of tallow and lard, sometimes called butter sweet, with lard and a little tar in it, has cured it.

Ed.

SEASONABLE HINTS.

We select the following paragraphs from an editorial article in the Massachusetts Ploughman, under the head of "Farm work for June."

"Beans are sometimes planted in June, and when the season is favorable, they come to maturity. Carrots, parsnips and beets, for winter use, can now be sown; and the labor of weeding will be less than when they are sown earlier.—The chief objection to late sowing is that the weeding must be late when farmers want to be having."

Yellow turnips may be sown as late as the 25th of June, and this is done in the same ground where other plants have failed to vegetate. Turnips are grown with less labor than any of the root crops, and they are worth less than any of the others, by the bushel.

We formerly planted many potatoes as late as June, but since the rot has attacked them it is found more safe to plant early. It may be that very early and late planting are better than the usual time of former years. It is thought by many farmers that unripe potatoes are better for planting than such as are full grown and mature—they accordingly plant a certain portion of the field quite late, and save the product for next year's planting. It is certain that when the refuse and unripe potatoes are used for planting the produce is often equal to any from the full grown tubers.

Fences should be put in good repair early in the season. It is a miserable practice to make experiments to try the powers of weeds and fences. Never tempt them to jump, or to hook down tottering rails. Keep a lookout for cows until they have become used to the pasture, and when a rail is down put it up again before the cows find it. By paying proper attention all your cows will be orderly, and orderly cows are kept with less fence than others.

June is the month for tilling between the rows of corn, potatoes, and the root crops. This work should be commenced as early as the case will admit—for small weeds are easily killed. Stirring the ground is fatal to thousands of them when they first appear, but let them grow awhile and they must be chopped to pieces.

When weeds are small, the harrow or the cultivator masters them, but when they have grown strong, the plough only is strong enough to bury them. Most of the small weeds among corn and potatoes are more sure to die by covering or burying than by cutting with the hoe. When the tops of weeds, such as the hog weed and barn weed, are buried with the hoe, they die at once, and you find that the leaves turn yellow and commence decaying immediately. They soon make manure for the plants. But when you chop them up with the hoe, one half of them take root again; and in case of rainy weather, you will be lucky if you find one-fourth of them dead.

Witch-grass or wire-grass is a peculiar curse to the garden and to all tillage land. Burying will not kill it, and the more the soil is stirred, the more it flourishes—for when the field is laid to grass, the witch-grass is never ambitious of obtaining the mastery. The plough only encourages its extension, and burying the tops only increases the roots. In a garden the hoe should be used in a dry time to chop up the roots fine. We have completely eradicated this grass by this mode of treatment. If you hope to kill it with the plough, you should do it just before the ground freezes in the fall. This sometimes kills the roots.

The cultivator answers a good purpose in a ward land, and is not so apt to tear up the furrows as a horse plough is—though when the furrows are seven or eight inches thick, there is not much danger of disturbing them with a plough. But for old ground that has no sward to keep it light a small plough between the rows is much better than a cultivator.

We find no better method of treating such land than the old one. Plough from the corn and other plants at first—then plough to them and make slight hills. It is easier to hill up a little and bury the weeds, than to pull them out with the hoe or the fingers. Keep the soil on the move till the hay field demands your attention—for land that is often stirred bears the dry weather better. In a wet summer, too, the plough keeps tillage land from baking and lying heavy.

Trees that were set this spring should be mulched before the hot and dry weather come on, for the mulch is wanted to check evaporation and keep the light about the roots. When no mulch is applied, the surface of the soil around the tree cracks open, and the roots are dried before they have fixed themselves firmly in the soil. The winds, too, rack young trees, and the ground gives way too much to retain a proper degree of moisture.

MINUTE PRODUCE.

Put a pint and a half of milk on the fire; mix five large spoonsful of flour with half a pint of milk, a little salt and nutmeg. When the milk boils, stir in the mixture and milk. Let the whole boil for one minute, stirring constantly. Take it from the fire; let it set till lukewarm, then add three beaten eggs. Let it bake on the fire, and stir it constantly until it thickens. Take it from the fire as soon as it boils. To be eaten with nice sauce.

PRINCIPLES OF BREEDING. No. 2.

We closed our former article on this subject with an explanation, as we understand the case, of the consequences which sometimes follow breeding from domestic animals of near affinities. It does not appear that degeneracy is the inevitable result of this course. In a state of nature, it is more than probable that animals of the closest affinities frequently interbred without any injurious result. In fact we are not without examples of animals having been bred in a domestic state, directly in-and-in for many generations, without the least disadvantage. We have been informed by breeders of pigeons, that the two hatched in the same nest at the same time, are usually male and female, and that they generally pair and breed together. Several striking examples in reference to geese, have come to the knowledge of the writer. Col. Jacques, of Ten-Hills Farm, near Boston, imported one pair of Bremen geese from Germany, in 1832. It would be difficult to enumerate the numbers that have been bred from this pair in the space of thirty years. The imported couple were bred together till the Spring of 1830, when the gander was killed by an accident. Since then, the geese has been bred with her offspring, till her loss by the attack of dogs on Col. J.'s poultry-yard, in April last. Of course, the progeny have been bred for the most part directly in-and-in, and no perceptible deterioration has occurred. In Col. J.'s hands they have always been very prolific, have not decreased in size, but in some late instances have exceeded the weight of the original pair, and have in fact been in all respects so superior as to attract general attention.

Two similar cases might be mentioned in reference to domesticated wild, or Canadian geese. Col. Jacques procured a pair from Canada in 1818, and has continued to breed from this stock, till all those in his possession were destroyed by the attack of dogs before mentioned. Some of these destroyed, were the heaviest of the species we ever saw. The gander originally brought from Canada, died the past Winter, from some cause not known.

The Shakers at New Lebanon, N. Y., have had a stock of the same species, twenty-six years. The originals were a single pair, which belonged to the same breed, consequently the whole stock must have been bred strictly in-and-in, to the present time. They still breed as well, and are as perfect as at first.

The fact seems to be, that animals in a state of nature, do not suffer from in-and-in breeding; or at least, that they are less inclined to suffer from that course, than those far removed from their natural condition. One reason probably is, that their organization is more perfect, and that they are generally free from diseases or defects, and consequently their progeny can inherit none. Again, we know that with animals in a domestic state, almost everything depends on the selection of such as are most suitable to breed from. Scarcely a well selected pair of animals, "produce all the advantages of the most skillful selection. The greatest number of females will of course fall to the share of the most vigorous males; and the strongest individuals of both sexes, by driving away the weaker, will enjoy the best food and most favorable situations for themselves and their offspring. A severe winter or a severity of food, destroys the weak and the unhealthy. In cold and barren lands, no animals can live to the age of maturity, but those who have strong constitutions; the weak and the unhealthy do not live to propagate their infirmities, as is too often the case with our domestic animals."

It follows from these facts, that animals which are nearest the natural type of the race, would breed with the most certainty of transmitting their peculiar properties, and would be least likely to degenerate, whether bred from near or remote affinities. Hence it results that natural, or aboriginal breeds, have less tendency to deviate from a uniform character, than varieties derived from the original type, or which were derived from a mixture of the blood of various races. Still, crossing is sometimes expedient, and when managed with judgment may be highly useful.

The latter clause of our text declares that "when animals properly formed have been obtained," breeding in-and-in "is the only method to retain that form." This can only be true in a modified sense, as will be shown. The statement presupposes the impracticability of procuring animals of proper form, not closely allied by consanguinity. In some instances it is admitted that this may be so, but in many others we cannot see that such a difficulty exists. In some breeds, the form and properties which are most highly prized, can be obtained in specimens between which we can trace no relationship, as the term is commonly understood. This remark will apply to many kinds of poultry, as turkeys, geese, and some breeds of fowls; it will also apply to some breeds of sheep—as the Spanish, or Merino, in some degree to the South Down, and probably with more force to the Scotch Mountain breeds. It will more or less apply to cattle,—as to the Devon, Galloway, and West-Highland breeds. We are assured by those who have had the advantage of ocular examination, that in the Hungarian, and some of the Spanish breeds of cattle, (the latter said to be exceedingly well formed,) the animals are so near alike that it often requires close attention to tell one from another. It is the same with the most distinct breeds of horses,—as the Arab, the Norman, and some of the English breeds,—especially the smaller class called ponies. In all wild animals, there is almost an exact similarity,—from the buffalo and deer to the different species of birds.

But where it is desired to obtain animals which possess properties not usually found in the breed to which they belong, it may be necessary to breed from close affinities. If, for instance, an extraordinary development of the fatness disposition, or any other property, is exhibited in one animal, and it is not to be found in others of the breed, it will be necessary to breed from the progeny of this animal, if it is desired to retain this property in the highest degree. An example in point may be cited in the Ancon, or Outer sheep, which originated from one animal, and were extended and perpetuated by selecting and breeding from those of the family which possessed the peculiar organization. It may be said that this was propagating morbid, or unnatural properties. It is not our present purpose to discuss the value of this

stock, the object is to illustrate a principle. We may say that every trait in animals which is at variance with the normal type of the race, is in some degree of a morbid nature. It is so in relation to the extraordinary fattening tendency in some animals, and the great milking habit in others. They do not belong to the animal in its natural condition, and in this light may be considered defects, though in reference to the purposes of man, they may be important advantages.

Cases might be cited where an adherence to animals of the same family has been necessary to retain certain properties, and establish a new variety in which these properties should be prominent. The bull "Hubback" has been called "the main root," and the "grand cause of improvement," in the variety of cattle known as improved Short-horns. Without stopping here to examine the mooted question as to the blood of Hubback, we may say, that he differed so remarkably from the general character of the race, as to be pronounced by those who could appreciate his value, a "wonderful animal." According to all the records in regard to him, it was admitted that in relation to tendency to fatten, quality of flesh, and weight in proportion to size, he possessed excellencies unequalled by any bull of his day. Charles Colling formed the design of securing the extraordinary properties possessed by this bull. He accordingly procured such females as most nearly resembled him, and the progeny produced by this union, formed the foundation of his celebrated herd. Having secured in the outset most of the animals within his reach which possessed the characters he was desirous of propagating, he was under the necessity of adhering chiefly to his own stock, in which alone these characters were strikingly exhibited. Hence it will be seen by an examination of the pedigrees of his animals, that he in many instances bred from those of very near relationship. It is true that after he had thus bred for several years, he introduced to some extent a cross with another breed, with a view to giving certain animals of his herd such points as he deemed necessary to effect his original purposes.

We might refer to other examples of this nature. We might show that Bakewell in breeding the Long-horns, and Tomkins and Tully in breeding the Herefords, pursued similar courses to that pursued by Colling. It has been said, and probably with truth, that Colling studied in the school of Bakewell. The main point, however, in breeding on this or any other mode, is the selection of such animals for propagation as possess in the highest degree the desired properties, and which are at the same time free from defects. Hence the judgment of the breeder and the facilities he has for selection, will determine his success. He must of course be able to know the proper animals, or he must have the means of obtaining them, or he cannot accomplish his object. The opportunity of choosing from a number of animals is of great importance. If the breeder has not this range for selection, he may be obliged to breed from animals which are deficient in essential points. Hence it is very difficult to keep up a stock of any description, where only a few breeding animals are to be had. All specimens of any variety are not exactly alike, and comparatively few, in many varieties, can be said to be perfect enough for breeders; but such are the only ones that should be allowed to propagate. While the variety comprises but few animals, the breeder is met with serious obstacles. In reference to overcoming these obstacles Seligrit makes the following remarks, which are worthy special attention: "If one male and one female only of a valuable breed could be obtained, the offspring should be separated, and placed in situations as dissimilar as possible; for animals kept together are all subjected to the effects of the same climate, of the same food, and of the same mode of treatment, and consequently to the same diseases, particularly such as are infectious, which must accelerate the effects of breeding in-and-in. By establishing the breed in various places, we may perhaps be enabled to continue it for some time, without the intermixture of other blood."

From the view of this subject presented by the foregoing reasoning, the following conclusion may be deduced: That breeding from animals of near relationship may be properly practised, so far as is necessary to fix and perpetuate some valuable quality not belonging to the race in general; but where no superiority is exhibited in a particular family, or where individuals composing a breed are nearly similar, there is no advantage in resorting to this system.

[Boston Cultivator.]

RECIPE FOR MAKING LIGHT BREAD.

Take a pint of milk and let it come to a boil; put in enough cold water to make it a little more than lukewarm; put in one teaspoonful of salt; two large teaspoonfuls of corn meal, and enough flour to make it as thick as you can conveniently stir it. Keep about milk warm; if water rises to the surface stir your yeast up; and if it does not begin to rise in four or five hours, stir in a little more meal. When your yeast rises, stir your flour, put in a little salt and a piece of butter half as big as a hen's egg; mix up with warm water; grease your pans and warm them and fill them half full, and when the dough rises to the top of the pan, put it to bake. Bake to a light brown, then take it out of the pan and wrap it up. Bread ought not to be cut under twelve hours after baking. [Valley Farmer.]

DESTRUCTIVE MILDOW.

Marshall P. Wilder, in a communication to the Journal of Agriculture, speaking of mildew on grapes, green-house plants, and elsewhere, says, "We have for more than fifteen years used sulphur for this purpose, and in no instance has it failed to effect a speedy cure. We have known instances where mildew, in the space of a few days, would spread its spores over a large rose-house, destroying nearly all the foliage of the plants, and this, by the use of sulphur spread on the walks and over the plants, was exterminated in a short period."

INDIAN CAKES.

Boil some corn meal as mush for five or six hours; then mix it as a batter, and add some wheat flour to make the cake hold together and turn easily; and two or three eggs with salt to season; bake on the griddle till brown.

They have strawberries and cherries in the Boston market. Rather early.

From the Boston Cultivator.

THE CULTIVATION OF FRUIT.

BY A. C. WILDER.

What fairer sight can mortal eyes behold, Than fruit of crimson, purple, or of gold? What floral plants a sweeter fragrance fling, Than apple trees upon the air of Spring? What is so charming to the eye with such a sound, As that, when early apple strikes the ground? What article of food on which we feed, More grateful than the apple, peach or pear? With what delight we take them in the hand, The smallest child can feel and understand! It is the fruit that makes the eye so bright, But how to make them grow is the great thing.

But all the other season's produce, And seek to cultivate the very best! To grow the best will cost but little more Than to raise the worthless and the poor, While one affords to man a luscious treat, The other is but fit for brutes to eat. Or if by grinding we extract the juice, With some perchance, 'twill play the very deuce! Then, let us only cultivate the good, And thus produce an article of food.

But then in doing this we wish to know, Not only how to make our fruit trees grow, But also how to make them early bear, And thus receive a recompense for care. Small nature do the whole, or on'y part? Can we assist nature from the hand or art, Can we not help with pruning knife and spade, Besides affording some "material aid?" The crooked train right, nor let them lean, And by a little washing, keep them clean; In Spring trim with sharp and judicious eye, Each tree, And keep the limbs from catarrhs free!

'Tis easy work, if we but begin, If not, 'tis like an evil or a sin; A long and painful effort it will cost, And, after all, perhaps the fruit is lost! The enemies of trees are small and shy, And like the enemy of man, are shy; For some of them beneath the bark are found, While others work their mischief underground. They love to do the wrong, but hate the right, And like all mischief makers, shun the light, As evil thoughts no habitation find, Within a sound and ever active mind, So insects seldom make a lodgment where The heart is sound, the surface smooth and fair, But for their homes, or lodging places, seek A tree whose vital energies are weak, Or hollow hearted tree, whose bark is rough— They there a shelter find, and food enough; And though beset by foes who thousands kill, And who their country's market we can fear, But also beasts with long and slender snout, Who root beneath the trees and find them out, Yet these cannot exterminate the race, So long as they can find a hiding place; But keep them out upon the open field, And then their loss will conquer, they must yield; And when their country's market we can fear, We then may hope to see our fruit trees bear, And if the ground is filled with proper care, May yearly feast on fruit that's sound and fair; Or, what to some, perhaps, is better still, A sure and ready market we can find, For fruit that's fair, of almost every kind, New England apples now are widely known, They're not confined to Yankee homes alone, But circulate around the freestone hearth, In almost every land throughout the earth.

We've pears that melt like butter in the mouth, And peaches, fair as from the sunny south, Our lips cannot a fairer object seek, Except of course a blushing maiden's cheek! And then we have the quince and cherry too, As well as plums of varied size and hue. These all will thrive upon a proper soil, And well repay the farmer for their toil. The farmers, though, in this are not alone, For others, too, a garden spot may own, And though 'tis but a little plot of land, 'Tis large enough for trees thereon to stand. Those trees will bind the owner to the spot, As well as beautify his humble cot, Will make him more content to stay at home, And less inclined to move about or roam, And such a man will never a traitor prove, For those attached to home their country love! Then let us all surround our homes with trees, That they may woo, and catch the passing breeze, That when the sun descends, with soothing heat, We there may seek, and find a safe retreat; May rest beneath their cool refreshing shade, With none to vex, molest, or make afraid!

CULTIVATION OF THE RUTA BAGA AND BELGIAN CARROT.

The argument is frequently urged on the part of farmers, that the labor and attention required for root crops are quite too great, for the prices that are obtained for beef and mutton. Now, this is a very easy mode of disposing of a question, that requires something more than mere assertion to convince a man who has repeatedly found by practical experiments, that no branch of farming will afford a better profit than either rutabagas or field carrots, when grown upon suitable soil, and subjected to a careful system of culture adapted to those crops. What these peculiar conditions are, it might not be improper to somewhat carefully examine. It is useless to plant rutabagas on any other than a rich soil, which has been brought into the finest till by frequent plowings and harrowings; and to secure a speedy growth of plants, well fermented barn-yard and stable manure should be applied at the rate of twenty-five to two horse wagon loads per acre.—The manure should be plowed under, the ground then should be harrowed, and the next thing to be done is the forming of drills with a plow, which should be two feet apart from centre to centre. The seed should be sown with a drilling machine, to be constructed peculiarly for the crop, and at least one and a half pounds of seed per acre should be sown, in all locations where the turnip fly is abundant, and is liable to be very destructive on the plants, and where these, or other equally pestiferous insects do not prevail, one-half the above quantity of seed will be sufficient. As soon as the plants put forth four leaves, an expanding and contracting steel tooth cultivator should be passed through the rows leveling down the drills, and so set that the teeth will work close to the plants without destroying any of them. The hand hoe then must be used to cut out the weeds and partially thin the plants. A shovel plow must then be used, and by passing it between each row, the drills will be brought back to their original shape, and fine fresh soil thrown up close to the young turnips. In the course of three weeks, weeds will again make their appearance, and to destroy them, the steel tooth expanding cultivator must be used as before, followed by another hand hoeing and thinning, and the shovel plow may be used the second time to form the drills. This may be repeated the third time, with advantage in some cases, but

ordinarily twice will secure, on moderately suitable soil, from 600 to 800 bushels of rutabagas per acre. The period for sowing is very naturally differs, depending much on the latitude, but as a general thing the month of June is the most suitable, commencing the first of the month in high northern latitudes, and ending the last, in latitude forty, which is as low as the plant can be profitably grown, in consequence of its liability to form a great tap and small roots much south of this parallel. We have repeatedly given out our rutabaga crop to be hand and horse hosed by the season at five dollars per acre, including three dressings and thinning in the manner described.

As the work was done by experienced hands, good wages were made; but uninitiated hands undertaking the management of the turnip crop, and conducting their operations upon a scale that would secure a full crop, would require seven or eight dollars per acre inclusive of board. This item of expense of course does not include plowing, manuring, harrowing, forming drills, seed and seedling, all of which added would bring the cost of an acre of rutabagas up to twenty dollars, and afford a crop of at least 600 and possibly 1000 bushels, worth, for feeding stock, at least 124 cents per bushel.

The management of land for the Belgian carrot, is very similar to what is required for the rutabaga, the former requiring, however, a much deeper and finer soil, and the plants in the rows need not be thinned quite so wide, but in all other respects the treatment may be the same. The carrot will answer for a more southerly latitude, and the young plants are very seldom damaged by insects. It also yields a heavier return, and 1000 bushels per acre is a common crop.

ODIC FORCE

by Mr. Spratt. The combination of metals is such as to prevent, by the galvanic action on the zinc, the rusting of the iron of the rod. The principal point is a composition of metal covered by a coating of silver, and this is surrounded by pointed steel magnets, which are gilt, and thus protected from injury by the weather; the rod is made into ten feet joints, which are screwed together, and the whole attached to the building by iron loops passing over short glass cylinders, which completely insulate the rod. The whole forms a neat, and at the same time an excellent defence and protection against damage by lightning, furnished at a very reasonable price. They are manufactured by Mr. L. Wilcox, of Hartford, Conn.

FIRE IN MONTREAL. A telegraphic despatch from Montreal, dated on Monday, states that a fire has occurred in that place. The loss estimated at over one million of dollars. We received no particulars.

DEATH OF REV. HOSEA BALLOU. Rev. Hosea Ballou, a very distinguished clergyman of the Universalist denomination, died at his residence in Boston, on Monday last, at the advanced age of 82 years. He was able to preach on the last Sunday but one before his decease. He had the reputation of being a profound thinker, and the denomination to which he belonged is greatly indebted to him for his labors of more than half a century.

cease, and the strife to see who can accom-
the most to benefit his fellow men comm-
Then will our schools advance and prosper
a far better state of things shall ever

are tolerated. Many of our Western brethren apprehend mischievous results from this change of the Discipline, but we hope they will be agreeably disappointed. The new measure but expresses, we think, the prevalent sentiment of our

at Fort Constitution, a deserter who had been absent from duty two years, was sentenced to pay \$30 fine, to make up his lost time to the department, and to receive fifty lashes on his bare back. The latter part of the sentence was accomplished in a most efficient manner.

